

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS BOARD[621]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b.”

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 20.6(5), the Public Employment Relations Board hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 7, “Impasse Procedures,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Chapter 7 implements the system set out in Iowa Code chapter 20 for resolving impasses in collective bargaining negotiations between public employers and the employee organizations certified to represent groups of the public employer’s employees. Parties are not required to utilize the statutory process, which is initiated by a request that the Board provide them with a mediator, but most do employ the statutory scheme or an agreed-upon variant which includes Board-provided mediation. These amendments implement a filing fee payable by a party who chooses to request a Board-appointed mediator and a processing fee payable by parties who actually schedule a mediation session with a Board-appointed mediator. These amendments, as well as other revenue-generating and expense-reduction measures, are necessary in order to ensure the Board’s ability to provide qualified mediators on request, notwithstanding the most recent across-the-board reductions in agency spending.

Any interested person may make written suggestions or comments on these proposed amendments on or before December 22, 2009. Written suggestions or comments should be directed to James R. Riordan, Chairperson, Public Employment Relations Board, 510 E. 12th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.

Persons who wish to convey their views orally should contact the office of the Public Employment Relations Board by telephone at (515)281-4414 or in person at the Board’s office at the address noted above. Requests for a public hearing must be received by December 22, 2009.

These amendments were also Adopted and Filed Emergency and are published herein as **ARC 8317B**. The purpose of this Notice is to solicit comment on that submission, the content of which is incorporated by reference.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 20.1(5), 20.6(3) and 20.20.